

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1 1. A system for controlling an exercise machine for a
2 particular user, said system comprising:

3 means for receiving at said portable computer system
4 at least one indicator of current exercise performed by
5 said particular user from said particular exercise
6 machine in use by said particular user;

7 means for comparing said at least one indicator of
8 current exercise with fitness goals for said particular
9 user at said portable computer system; and

10 means for adjusting a control signal transmitted
11 from said portable computer system to said particular
12 exercise machine in order to adjust said movement of said
13 particular exercise machine to aid said particular user
14 in meeting said fitness goals.

1 2. The system for managing exercise performed by a user
2 according to claim 1, said means for comparing said at
3 least one indicator of current exercise with fitness
4 goals for said particular user further comprising:

5 means for comparing said at least one indicator of
6 current exercise with fitness goals for said particular
7 user in view of an exercise profile for said particular
8 user at said portable computer system.

1 3. The system for managing exercise performed by a user
2 according to claim 1, said means for comparing said at
3 least one indicator of current exercise with fitness
4 goals for said particular user further comprising:

5 means for comparing said at least one indicator of
6 current exercise with fitness goals for said particular
7 user in view of personal data for said particular user at
8 said portable computer system.

1 4. The system for managing exercise performed by a user
2 according to claim 1, said system further comprising:

3 means for receiving an exercise machine indicator
4 from a particular exercise machine in a particular
5 transmittable data format at a portable computer system
6 provided by a particular user;

7 means for determining said control signal for
8 controlling movement of said particular exercise machine
9 according to an exercise program specified for said
10 particular exercise machine at said portable computer
11 system; and

12 means for transmitting said control signal to said
13 particular exercise machine for controlling said
14 particular exercise machine, such that said particular
15 exercise machine is controlled by said portable computer
16 system that is enabled to control a plurality of diverse
17 exercise machines.

1 5. The system for managing exercise performed by a user
2 according to claim 4, said means for determining said
3 control signal for controlling movement of said
4 particular exercise machine further comprising:

5 means for searching a plurality of predesignated
6 control programs at said independent controller according
7 to said particular exercise machine; and

8 means for determining said control signal from said
9 particular predesignated control program, in response to
10 finding a particular predesignated control program from
11 among said plurality of predesignated control programs
12 that is associated with said particular exercise machine.

1 6. The system for managing exercise performed by a user
2 according to claim 4, said means for determining said
3 control signal for controlling movement of said
4 particular exercise machine further comprising:

5 means for prompting said particular user, at said
6 portable computer system, to select from among a
7 plurality of control programs enabled for controlling
8 said particular exercise machine, in response to not
9 finding a predesignated control program for said
10 particular exercise machine; and

11 means for determining a control signal for a
12 particular currently selected control program from among
13 said plurality of control programs enabled for
14 controlling said particular exercise machine, in response

15 to a selection of said particular currently selection
16 control program by said particular user.

1 7. The system for managing exercise performed by a user
2 according to claim 6, said system further comprising:

3 means for specifying a plurality of control programs
4 enabled for controlling said particular exercise machine
5 according to said fitness goals for said particular user,
6 wherein said particular user is enabled to select from
7 said specified selection of said plurality of control
8 programs that are suited for said particular user.

1 8. The system for managing exercise performed by a user
2 according to claim 1, said system further comprising:

3 means for displaying a graphical representation of
4 said at least one indicator of current exercise at an
5 output interface coupled to said portable computer system
6 according to graphical output preferences for said
7 particular user.

1 9. The system for managing exercise performed by a user
2 according to claim 1, said system further comprising:

3 means for transmitting account data for said
4 particular user from said portable computer system to
5 said particular exercise machine in order to receive
6 access to use of said particular exercise machine,
7 wherein said account data is utilized to debit said
8 particular user for use of said particular exercise
9 machine.

1 10. The system for managing exercise performed by a user
2 according to claim 1, said system further comprising:

3 means for prompting said particular user, at said
4 portable computer system, to utilize said particular
5 exercise machine according to an electronic exercise
6 schedule comprising a plurality of exercise events for
7 said particular user.

1 11. A program for controlling an exercise machine for a
2 particular user, said program comprising:

3 means for receiving at said portable computer system
4 at least one indicator of current exercise performed by
5 said particular user from said particular exercise
6 machine in use by said particular user;

7 means for comparing said at least one indicator of
8 current exercise with fitness goals for said particular
9 user at said portable computer system; and

10 means for adjusting a control signal transmitted
11 from said portable computer system to said particular
12 exercise machine in order to adjust said movement of said
13 particular exercise machine to aid said particular user
14 in meeting said fitness goals.

1 12. The program for managing exercise performed by a
2 user according to claim 11, said program further
3 comprising:

4 means for comparing said at least one indicator of
5 current exercise with fitness goals for said particular
6 user in view of an exercise profile for said particular
7 user at said portable computer system.

1 13. The program for managing exercise performed by a
2 user according to claim 11, said program further
3 comprising:

4 means for comparing said at least one indicator of
5 current exercise with fitness goals for said particular
6 user in view of personal data for said particular user at
7 said portable computer system.

1 14. The program for managing exercise performed by a
2 user according to claim 11, said program further
3 comprising:

4 means for receiving an exercise machine indicator
5 from a particular exercise machine in a particular
6 transmittable data format at a portable computer system
7 provided by a particular user;

8 means for determining said control signal for
9 controlling movement of said particular exercise machine
10 according to an exercise program specified for said
11 particular exercise machine at said portable computer
12 system; and

13 means for transmitting said control signal to said
14 particular exercise machine for controlling said
15 particular exercise machine, such that said particular

16 exercise machine is controlled by said portable computer
17 system that is enabled to control a plurality of diverse
18 exercise machines.

1 15. The program for managing exercise performed by a
2 user according to claim 14, said program further
3 comprising:

4 means for searching a plurality of predesignated
5 control programs at said independent controller according
6 to said particular exercise machine; and

7 means for determining said control signal from said
8 particular predesignated control program, in response to
9 finding a particular predesignated control program from
10 among said plurality of predesignated control programs
11 that is associated with said particular exercise machine.

1 16. The program for managing exercise performed by a
2 user according to claim 14, said program further
3 comprising:

4 means for prompting said particular user, at said
5 portable computer system, to select from among a
6 plurality of control programs enabled for controlling
7 said particular exercise machine, in response to not
8 finding a predesignated control program for said
9 particular exercise machine; and

10 means for determining a control signal for a
11 particular currently selected control program from among
12 said plurality of control programs enabled for

13 controlling said particular exercise machine, in response
14 to a selection of said particular currently selection
15 control program by said particular user.

1 17. The program for managing exercise performed by a
2 user according to claim 16, said program further
3 comprising:

4 means for specifying a plurality of control programs
5 enabled for controlling said particular exercise machine
6 according to said fitness goals for said particular user,
7 wherein said particular user is enabled to select from
8 said specified selection of said plurality of control
9 programs that are suited for said particular user.

1 18. The program for managing exercise performed by a
2 user according to claim 11, said program further
3 comprising:

4 means for displaying a graphical representation of
5 said at least one indicator of current exercise at an
6 output interface coupled to said portable computer system
7 according to graphical output preferences for said
8 particular user.

1 19. The program for managing exercise performed by a
2 user according to claim 11, said program further
3 comprising:

4 means for transmitting account data for said
5 particular user from said portable computer system to
6 said particular exercise machine in order to receive

7 access to use of said particular exercise machine,
8 wherein said account data is utilized to debit said
9 particular user for use of said particular exercise
10 machine.

1 20. The program for managing exercise performed by a
2 user according to claim 11, said program further
3 comprising:

4 means for prompting said particular user, at said
5 portable computer system, to utilize said particular
6 exercise machine according to an electronic exercise
7 schedule comprising a plurality of exercise events for
8 said particular user.